

GIFT GIVING IDEAS

Helping Dad (And Mom) Get The Most From The Garden

(NAPSA)—If you are looking for a memorable Father's Day gift for dad, you might find the inspiration for it just outside your window—your family's lawn or garden.

Americans love to garden—at last count eight out of 10 households do it, spending over \$450 per household on their lawns, gardens and equipment in 2002.

So it stands to reason that you just might find a gift that's truly "Dad-worthy" in the lawn and garden section. And the same holds true for Mother's Day gifts as well. Here are some ideas from the experts at John Deere, a leading manufacturer of lawn and garden equipment.

- Replace some of your dad's—or mom's—"favorite" tools that have been around for decades. Check the garden trowel—is the handle connector bent? Are the pruning shears sprung, or is it time for a new mower blade?

- Upgrade with a power tool—a garden tiller, backpack blower or even a new string trimmer. Hand tools and power equipment are being improved every year, so for gardeners there's always something new under the sun.

- Surprise your well-equipped gardener with a useful attachment for their lawn tractor—an aerator, dethatcher or a utility cart that can be used for hauling compost and fertilizer.

- How about a spring tune-up kit? John Deere offers a maintenance kit that includes two quarts



Gardening gifts can often sprout good feelings for family members with a green thumb.

of oil, an oil filter, a new spark plug and a new air filter. If you don't know what to get, just tell a dealer the model number of your mower or tractor and let them assemble the package.

- For those who already own plenty of hand tools, gloves and power equipment, consider something a little out of the ordinary. How about a sturdy plastic gasoline can that won't rust or build up a charge of static electricity?

- How about lawn ornaments or yard art?

- How about a gift certificate that lets dad make his own selection?

- Maybe even a pond or water garden kit.

When it comes to lawn and garden gifts, the possibilities truly are endless.